

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Jiang, et al.	Art Unit:	1775
Serial No.:	10/821,023	Examiner:	Jason L. Savage
Filed:	04/07/2004		
Docket No.:	A369-USA		
For:	Brazing Titanium to Stainless Steel Using Ti-Ni Filler Material		

VIA EFS-WEB

**Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

APPLICANTS' REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This reply is in furtherance of the Notice of Appeal filed in this case on March 16, 2006.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's comment on the deficiency of this section based on 37 C.F.R. 41.37(c)(1)(v). Applicant will file a paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter as required, if so demanded.

APPLICANTS' REPLY

The Examiner's brief gives much weight to the teachings of Chang at col 6, lines 44-67. Carefully read, it becomes clear that Chang does not teach a brazed component assembly comprising a 316 stainless steel metal part, see Applicants' claim 1. Briefly looking at Chang col 6, lines 44-51 finds a teaching to roll bonded cold rolled thin alloy such as that which Applicants might use as their filler material only. It is a three layer Ni/Ti/Ni composite.

Then Chang at col 6, lines 52-57 teaches that this 3 layer Ni/Ti/Ni composite layer can be roll bonded to "a 0.040" thick 316 stainless steel" yielding a four (4) layer composite self-brazing strip that is "further cold rolled to 0.015" thick". [0.040" thick stainless steel is roll bonded to the composite layer, all of which is then further cold rolled to 0.003" thick (It is difficult for Applicants to tell exactly what Chang does here). There is no teaching of a Ti part.]

Chang at col 6 line 58-64 teaches a five (5) layer composite "or other variations" that can be placed between two sheets of Ti and placed in a vacuum furnace for brazing. This sheet is comprised of two "Beta-21 alloys". [Stainless steel is not part of this teaching.]

At col 6 lines 65-67 Chang teaches that the fire (5) layer composites from the previous paragraph can be cold rolled and roll bonded to a Ti strip. [Again, stainless steel is not part of this teaching.]

Chang's teachings in these sections of col 6 fail to teach Applicants' invention and rely on a roll bonding approach to include stainless steel at all as part of a composite foil that has Ni/Ti/Ni with stainless steel as one layer, possibly on the outside of the "self braze strip". Chang is silent as to the term "filler". Chang fails to teach a stainless steel part, titanium part, and a filler material of Ni/Ti as one single teaching. The words are there, but there is no teaching of the required combination.

Respectfully submitted,

8/17/06

Date



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